

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 107361
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 107361

EXDIS - FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SOBER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, MASS, SA, US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S CONSULTATION: AIRCRAFT PACKAGE

1. THE SECRETARY WOULD LIKE YOU TO RETURN TO DEPARTMENT AT EARLIEST FEASIBLE TIME SO AS TO BE ON HAND FOR URGENT DISCUSSIONS ON F-15 SALE PROPOSAL. HE IS AWARE THAT YOU WERE PLANNING TO RETURN BY MAY 1 BUT BELIEVES IMPORTANT YOU ADVANCE YOUR TRAVEL.
 2. THE SECRETARY ALSO BELIEVES IT VERY IMPORTANT THAT A SAUDI OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO MAKE DECISIONS ON QUESTIONS THAT MAY ARISE BE IN WASHINGTON AT EARLIEST FEASIBLE DATE. WE ASSUME PRINCE TURKI AL-FAISAL WOULD FILL THAT BILL. PLEASE CONVEY SUCH MESSAGE AND LET US KNOW WHO MIGHT COME, AND WHEN.
 3. FOR PURPOSES OF FURTHER EARLY DISCUSSIONS HERE, SECRETARY WOULD LIKE YOU TO CABLE ACCOUNT OF TALKS YOU HAVE HAD
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WITH SAUDIS ON VARIOUS POSSIBLE "ASSURANCES" RE F-15, AND YOUR ASSESSMENT OF HOW FAR WE COULD GET THEIR AGREEMENT. PLEASE SEND BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE IF YOU CAN, BUT YOU SHOULD NOT DELAY DEPARTURE ON THIS ACCOUNT. YOU SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT ENGAGE IN ANY FURTHER TALKS WITH SAUDIS ON ASSURANCES PRIOR TO YOUR DEPARTURE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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